

(d) the details of allocation of money in the Budget for physically disabled persons in last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (c) Out of an allocation of Rs. 175.25 crores, a sum of Rs.163.58 crores was utilized for the various schemes/programmes for persons with disabilities during the last financial year (1999-2000). Allocation of funds is finalized taking into consideration the need based requirements of persons with disabilities. Besides the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, which is a nodal Ministry for development of persons with disabilities, other Ministries/Departments of Central Government and the State Governments/UT Administrations also run various schemes for them with appropriate budget allocations.

(d) Allocation of funds for schemes/programmes for development of persons with disabilities under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and utilization thereof during the last three years is given below:—

(Rs. in crores)

Year	Budget Allocation	Expenditure
1997-98	78.32	77.34
1998-99	140.63	133.07
1999-2000	175.25	163.58

Delay in Disinvestment of Air India

***339. DR. KARAN SINGH:
SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM:**

Will the Minister of DISINVESTMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government have decided to put-off disinvestment in respect of Air India;
- (b) if so, for how long;

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(c) whether some of the bidders have withdrawn from the race in respect of their bids on account of this delay; and

(d) how this deferment and delay are likely to hit the prospects of striking the best deal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In response to the public advertisements inviting Expression of Interest, responses from the prospective parties were received. The prospective bidders were shortlisted according to the pre-qualification criteria and Bid Packs containing Information Memorandum Confidentiality Agreement, drafts of the Share Purchase Agreement & Shareholders Agreement have been issued to those shortlisted bidders. The initial Technical proposals received by the Advisors are under scrutiny.

(d) The process of disinvestment is proceeding as planned in accordance with the standardised procedure that have been devised to ensure optimal results.

Heavy industries identified for disinvestment

***340. DR. D. MASTHAN:**

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the heavy industries, in the Public Sector, identified for disinvestment;

(b) the names of the said heavy industries; and

(c) the total capital investment made by Government therein and the amount expected to be realised through disinvestment?

THE MINISTER OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC

^tOriginal notice of the Question was received in Hindi.